

CHARLIE CRIST

GOVERNOR

TEENAGE SAFE DRIVING AWARENESS WEEK

WHEREAS, motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among teenagers in Florida and in the nation; and

WHEREAS, more than 800,000 licensed drivers in Florida are between the ages of 15 and 19; and

WHEREAS, teen drivers had the highest crash rate of any age group in Florida in 2008 when more than 32,000 teen drivers were involved in crashes; and

WHEREAS, out of the 109 teen drivers killed in crashes in 2008, 63 percent failed to buckle up. Nearly half of those unbuckled teens were fully or partially ejected from their vehicles; and

WHEREAS, Teenage Safe Driving Week will bring attention to the development of programs, such as the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles' *Drive with CARE* program, that help prepare teens to take the wheel; and

WHEREAS, the state of Florida recognizes the importance of safe teen driving programs and encourages parental involvement in helping young people to develop critical driving skills;

WHEREAS, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles held the first teen driver safety summit in Florida In October 2009 to bring awareness to the important issue; and

WHEREAS, local citizen activist groups, such as The Dori Slosberg Foundation, help promote teen driver safety;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charlie Crist, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing April 18-25, 2010, as *Teenage Safe Driving Awareness Week*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capitol, this 1st day of March, In the year two thousand ten.

Governor